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1.

50X1 The Army General Staff coordinated the work of the various Technical Committees. The Chief of the Army General Staff could delegate to the chief of the service concerned the supervision of the work of the pertinent technical committee. The Minister of Defense coordinated military research and development and called meetings only if major problems were under consideration. Problems considered important enough to fit into this category could deal with which type of new tank should be mass produced or whether certain tank units should be made organic within larger infantry units.

2.

50X1 the initiation of plans for new weapons and equipment could occur in several different ways. The artillery arm, for example, could originate the idea for a new weapon or intelligence could learn that a foreign army had a new weapon which could be useful in the Soviet Army. The new idea would be discussed, for example, by the Artillery Technical Committee with experts on the staff of the Frunze Military Academy and of the Artillery Academy. These discussions would deal with tactical requirements of the new weapon, ie, such characteristics as size and weight. A "zadanie" (assignment) would then probably be given to several construction, or design, bureaus (Konstruktorskii Bureaux - KB), and the best solution would be accepted. Most military technical academies, such as those for air and artillery, had their own KBs. Members of these KBs were real experts. These KBs served not

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only as design bureaus but also checked on the work of other KBs located in factories. The Military Engineering Academy did not have its own KB at the Academy, but did have one at its testing grounds, and also utilized the services of appropriate KBs in civilian fields. Once the "zadanie" had been completed, coordinated, and checked, it went, for example, to the Artillery Technical Committee for approval. If the Committee found it satisfactory, the design would automatically be approved by the Chief of the Army General Staff. The Minister of Defense and the Council of Ministers considered the matter only if it dealt with an important new weapon, such as a tank.

3. [redacted] the Academy of Sciences had no functions in regard to research and development of new weapons and equipment. Of course, individual Academicians could be the chiefs of, or members of, research institutes, as Kapitsa is reported to be for the atomic research institute.

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4. [redacted] a "Soviet Technical Plan" is a misnomer for a production plan (plan proizvotstvo). Production plans of course included military production, but not research and development. The latter were covered by the "zadanii" and by a general, flexible plan of a military technical committee for desired technical developments. Factories received production plans covering a period of one year, not five years, from their Ministry, which in turn was given the plans by GOSPLAN. The factory divided a plan into quarterly periods. The departments of the factory broke it down into monthly periods. The military "zadanii" dealing with research were not part of the Five-Year Plans. However, research at times might be hastened so as to be able to include production of the item in question in next year's plan.

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5. Once a prototype model was accepted, further steps taken to get it into production were similar to measures taken in other countries. [redacted] GOSPLAN [redacted] requested the appropriate ministry, such as the Ministry of Armaments, to determine the factories and materials available to produce the new weapon and to determine the quantity which could be produced each quarter. In other words, these steps were necessary in preparation for the item to be put into serial production. Of course, once the new weapon was in production it could well replace manufacture of an older type of weapon.

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